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Materials during 1951

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SOURCE

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1. Furnace Coke

The planned 1951 quota of 764,495 tons was filled only 37.9 per cent, or 671,930 tons. However, the shortage of 93,000 tons did not produce a serious effect, because production difficulties in the Eisenhüttenkombinat Ost lowered consumption considerably below the figure originally specified. This permitted the Marxhütte plant and the VVB Mansfeld Kombinat Wilhelm Pieck to increase their stocks of furnace coke.

No progress was made in improving the quality of the coke delivered. In fact, since early 1952 this situation has further deteriorated and has caused production stoppages and accidents in the Marxhütte plant. The Ministry of Metallurgy and Ore Mining is demanding improved quality for the current year by pointing out that the quota assigned to it has already been established at the lowest possible level, and deliveries of poor quality coke will result in a considerably higher consumption.

2. Pig Iron (open hearth)

The pig iron supply becomes apparent from the following figures:

<u>Allotment (tons)</u>		<u>Fulfillment (tons)</u>	
<u>DDR</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>DDR</u>	<u>Imports</u>
22,100	157,850	20,270	110,373

Since the pig iron charge has been reduced from 40% to 20%, an additional 220,000 tons have become available. Various serious disruptions were eliminated when the Administration of Soviet Property in Germany came to the rescue with 8,000 tons. A decisive improvement is anticipated for 1952 when the Eisenhüttenkombinat Ost starts pig-iron production, of which three-fourths is slated for plants of the Ministry of Metallurgy and

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Ore Mining. The first delivery from that source is not expected until the second quarter of 1952, however. Therefore, during the early months of the year, the requirements will have to be met exclusively from increased imports. [redacted] the Soviet Union intends to supply the total quantity of pig iron (170,000 tons) in equal parts during the four quarters of the year. However, the requirement for the first quarter of 1952 alone calls for a total of 30,000 tons which constitutes nearly half of the planned yearly total. So far, the Soviet Union has remained noncommittal on this question. Nevertheless, the production of the plants involved depends on the solution of this problem, especially since present deliveries are extremely haphazard and since the stocks of large steel plants, like Miesa and Brandenburg, are sufficient for a period of only two to four days.

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3. Foundry Pig Iron

<u>Allotment</u> (tons)		<u>Fulfillment</u> (tons)	
<u>DR</u>	<u>Import</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>Import</u>
2,000	23,000	18,556	1,442

As it became evident very soon that the planned import quota could not be realized, the State Planning Commission was instructed to effect a change in the distribution plan for foundry pig iron. This request was turned down, with the result that at the end of the year the account showed that the DR quota was overdrawn more than nine-fold, whereas the import quota shows only a 6 per cent fulfillment. This measure was necessary in order to assure the continuous supply of required hematite to the suppliers of cast iron for the steel plants. Of course, this strongly influenced the distribution plan of foundry pig iron. In 1952 this problem ought to be solved satisfactorily, since the quota is now based on domestic production.

4. Non-Metallic Metal Concentrates and Scrap

<u>Product</u>	<u>Allotment</u>		<u>Fulfillment</u>	
	<u>DR</u>	<u>Import</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>Import</u>
Lead ore concentrate	2,550	6,500	3,203	1,500
Tin ore concentrate	260	160	212	-
Copper scrap	16,000	-	15,167	-
Copper charge scrap	1,764	-	1,307	-
Brass scrap	1,243	-	1,738	-
Lead brass and bronze scrap	2,750	-	3,039	-
Alumium scrap	5,395	-	6,617	-
Nickel scrap	3,130	-	3,536	-
Lead scrap	18,000	-	13,473	-

The 1,50 tons listed under Import consist of so-called copper lead ore concentrate with a Pb content of approximately 33 per cent. This ore can be used in the smelting process only in conjunction with other ore concentrates.

The 160 tons of tin ore concentrates included in the import plan could not be contracted for and hence represent a total loss to the tin industry.

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5. Non-Ferrous Metals

Product	Allotment		Fulfillment	
	Alloc.	Report	Del.	Report
Copper	4,007	3,180	4,000	102
Lead	5,275	2,560	4,395	4
Zinc	-	1,155	-	925
Tin	236	40	161	40
Pure Aluminum	-	341	-	394
Nickel	145	-	73	-

6. Wire Cables

During 1951, all of the plants experienced considerable difficulties because of insufficient supplies of wire cable. Of the planned total of 700 tons, only 212 tons (30%) could be delivered. This large discrepancy was caused by failure to import the required raw materials. The Ministry for Machine Construction has issued instructions to increase the production of wire cables by 400 percent during 1952, so that deliveries of some 1100 tons are expected. This amount is 1.5 times the total quota for 1951. Better organization of the distribution system in this field is also anticipated, now that a Wire and Wire Cable Planning and Distribution Office has been established in Chemnitz.